



The Daily

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Education Matters: Profile of Canada's school principals

2004/2005

A new survey of Canada's elementary and secondary school principals provides insight into the extent to which everyday problems affect the functioning of their schools.

Results of the Survey of Principals, conducted during the 2004/2005 academic year, are released today in *Education Matters: Insights on Education, Learning and Training in Canada*, Statistics Canada's online source of facts and analysis on education.

Principals were generally satisfied with many aspects of their jobs. Almost 90% of them stated they were either somewhat or very satisfied with their professional development. Relatively high percentages were also either somewhat or very satisfied with the support they received from their supervisors (84%), their accountability (82%) and their professional autonomy (81%).

However, workload issues are apparent. Overall, only 37% of principals were either somewhat or very satisfied with the impact of their job on their family life and 47% were somewhat or very satisfied with their workload.

According to the data, slightly more than one-third of principals reported that student disrespect for teachers and student absenteeism caused problems in their schools.

In addition, nearly one-third of principals cited problems with students disrupting classes and with student tardiness and apathy. About 44% cited problems with bullying.

However, only 1 out of every 10 principals reported that racial-based conflicts among students had an impact on their school, or that sexism or sexual harassment among students had an impact.

On a regional basis, proportionately more principals in Quebec and the three territories reported problems with students dropping out, student apathy and teacher turnover.

Higher-than-average proportions of principals in Quebec and Ontario also reported problems with bullying. In the territories, principals noted problems with student consumption of alcohol or drugs, student absenteeism, disruption of classes by students and student tardiness.

In contrast, lower-than-average proportions of principals in British Columbia and the Prairies reported problems with conflicts among students, bullying, and student disrespect for teachers.

In total, Canada had about 8,000 male principals and 7,000 female principals at elementary and secondary schools in 2004/2005.

Women accounted for 47% of all principals. At the elementary level, they represented 53%, but only 42% at the secondary level. The territories had the highest proportion of male principals (81%).

Typically, principals begin their careers as teachers, advancing once they have gained classroom experience and taken further training. As a result, they tend to be older than the average for the labour force as a whole.

About 57% were aged 50 or over in 2004/2005, compared to 32% of managers in the labour force as a whole. Similarly, 12% of principals were aged between 20 and 39, compared to 33% of managers in the labour force overall.

Two-thirds (66%) of secondary school principals held either a master's degree or a doctorate, compared with 57% of their elementary counterparts.

A second article examines trends in apprenticeship training in Canada between 1991 and 2003. It provides information on total registrations, new registrations, and completions. There are also details on trends across major trades groups that participate in the registered apprenticeship training system.

Note: The Survey of Principals was part of a research project sponsored by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. It was developed in partnership with a team of researchers from the faculties of education at the Université de Montréal, University of Toronto, Simon Fraser University and Université de Sherbrooke.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5065.

The study "A profile of elementary and secondary school principals in Canada: First results from the 2004/2005 Survey of Principals" is now available online in the June 2006 issue of *Education Matters: Insights on Education, Learning and Training in Canada*, Vol. 3, no. 2 (81-004-XIE, free). This issue also presents another feature article entitled "Trends in Registered Apprenticeship Training in Canada." From the *Our products and services* page, under *Browse our free internet publications*, choose *Education*, then *Education Matters*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-800-307-3382 or 613-951-7608; fax:

613-951-9040; educationstats@statcan.ca, Culture, Tourism and the Centre for Education Statistics. ■

Farm Product Price Index

April 2006

Prices farmers received overall for their commodities fell 0.9% in April 2006 compared with the same month a year earlier as livestock prices dipped, while crop prices edged up.

Prices for livestock and animal products were 1.0% lower in April than they were a year earlier. This was the third consecutive month of year-over-year decreases, driven mainly by lower hog prices.

Prices for crops edged up 0.6% in April over last year, the first year-over-year increase since the fall of 2004. Although producers received lower prices for grains, oilseeds and specialty crops, higher prices for potatoes, fruit and vegetables were recorded.

The Farm Product Price Index stood at 95.7 (1997=100) in April, up from the revised March index of 95.2.

Prices farmers received for crops were up 3.5% in April compared to March, as all major categories recorded increases except grains.

Potato prices rose in April, the sixth consecutive monthly increase; supported by an 18% drop in production last fall. Fewer contracts for processing potatoes and poor prices in 2004 led to an 8% drop in seeded acres. However, poor growing conditions last season further curtailed production.

Prices for oilseeds were up 0.6% in April, the second consecutive monthly increase. Oilseed prices had trended downward for almost two years, affected by burdensome supplies and a strong Canadian dollar. However, as the new crop year approaches, concerns over growing conditions in major production areas are starting to influence crop prices.

The grains index slipped 0.2%, the third consecutive monthly decrease. Grain prices have been plagued by record production, a strong Canadian dollar and quality-reducing growing and harvest conditions.

Prices for livestock and animal products slid 1.1% in April from the revised March index, as hogs, cattle and calves, and poultry all recorded a drop. The declines ranged from 0.4% for poultry to 4.8% for hogs.

After increasing for two consecutive months, hog prices fell again in April, continuing the declining trend that began last summer. The downward pressure has come from large North American supplies and the strong Canadian dollar. After dropping 0.7% in March, the first decrease since May 2005, the value of the Canadian dollar against the US dollar was up 1.7% in April.

Cattle and calf prices were down 1.5% in April. After increasing 14.5% last July, when the border reopened to trade of live animals (under 30 months of age), the month-to-month index changes have ranged from a decline of 2.2% to an increase of 2.7%.

Farm Product Price Index (1997=100)

	April 2005 ^r	March 2006 ^r	April 2006 ^p	April 2005 to April 2006 2006 % change	March to April 2006
Farm Product Price Index	96.6	95.2	95.7	-0.9	0.5
Crops	86.1	83.7	86.6	0.6	3.5
Grains	76.8	66.2	66.1	-13.9	-0.2
Oilseeds	80.1	67.8	68.2	-14.9	0.6
Specialty crops	86.3	73.4	74.8	-13.3	1.9
Fruit	95.2	103.5	105.3	10.6	1.7
Vegetables	108.8	119.8	121.9	12.0	1.8
Potatoes	110.2	159.1	164.8	49.5	3.6
Livestock and animal products	105.0	105.1	103.9	-1.0	-1.1
Cattle and calves	102.5	113.9	112.2	9.5	-1.5
Hogs	88.1	70.2	66.8	-24.2	-4.8
Poultry	100.0	100.2	99.8	-0.2	-0.4
Eggs	95.5	97.6	97.8	2.4	0.2
Dairy	125.6	129.3	129.5	3.1	0.2

^r revised
^p preliminary

Available on CANSIM: tables 002-0021 and 002-0022.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5040.

The April 2006 issue of *Farm Product Price Index*, Vol. 6, no. 4 (21-007-XIE, free) is now available online from the *Our products and services* page of our website.

For general information or to order data, call (1-800-465-1991). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Gail-Ann Breese (204-983-3445; fax: 204-983-7543; gail-ann.breese@statcan.ca), Agriculture Division. ■

Steel primary forms, weekly data

Week ending June 17, 2006 (preliminary)

Steel primary forms production for the week ending June 17 totaled 333 705 metric tonnes, up 2.2% from 326 542 tonnes a week earlier and up 5.7% from 315 725 tonnes in the same week of 2005.

The year-to-date total as of June 17 was 7 352 141 tonnes, down 1.2% from 7 441 496 tonnes in the same period of 2005.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2131.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact the dissemination officer (toll-free 1-866-873-8789; 613-951-9497; manufact@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Supply and disposition of refined petroleum products

February 2006

Data on the supply and disposition and domestic sales of refined petroleum products are now available for February.

Available on CANSIM: tables 134-0001 and 134-0004.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2150.

The February 2006 issue of *The Supply and Disposition of Refined Petroleum Products in Canada* Vol. 61, no. 2 (45-004-XIE, free) is now available from the *Our products and services* page of our website.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Marketing and Dissemination Section (613-951-9497; toll-free 1-866-873-8789; energ@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

New products

Farm Product Price Index, April 2006, Vol. 6, no. 4
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All prices are in Canadian dollars and exclude sales tax. Additional shipping charges apply for delivery outside Canada.

The Supply and Disposition of Refined Petroleum Products in Canada, February 2006, Vol. 61, no. 2
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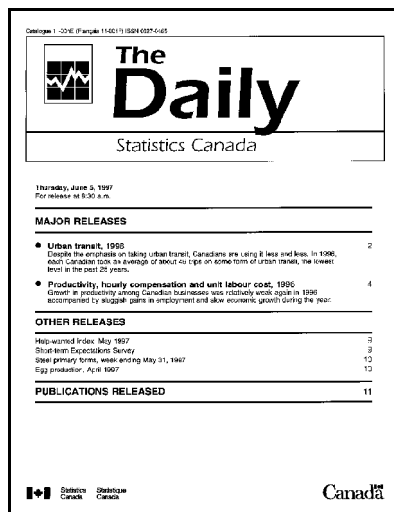
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